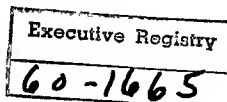


STUART SYMINGTON
MISSOURI

Approved For Release 2002/05/07 : CIA-RDP80B01676R002600120013-9

STANLEY R. FIKE
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D. C.



March 1, 1960

The Honorable Allen Dulles
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Allen:

Confirming our conversation, attached is
the statement made by Secretary Sharp in
answer to the question from Mr. Von Fremd.

My kind regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stuart Symington".

Stuart Symington

SS:ag

"FACE THE NATION"

CBS Television Network

January 24, 1960 -- 8:30 to 9:00 PM

GUEST: DUDLEY C. SHARP
Secretary of the Air Force

MR. VON FREMD: Mr. Sharp, just a year ago then Secretary of Defense McElroy was telling Congressional committees that, based on what we think the Russians can produce, and based on what we intend to produce ourselves, that we felt that during the early 60's that Russia would lead us by a 3-to-1 margin in the ICBM field. Are new intelligence figures now indicating that this 3-to-1 gap, the so-called missile gap, will not occur?

SECRETARY SHARP: I think the new figures indicate that if there is a gap, it will be smaller than that, yes.

MR. VON FREMD: How much smaller?

SECRETARY SHARP: I can't say exactly how much smaller, but it will be considerably smaller.

* * * * *

MR. VON FREMD: Is there going to be any period in 1960, or '61 or '62 or '63 when Russia will have more missiles than we have, which are ready to go, and that a missile gap will, in fact, exist?

SECRETARY SHARP: They might. I think it is doubtful, but they might.